



October 2021

# Bernard Gilpin Primary School

Dream Believe Achieve

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## Hello and welcome to the Autumn edition of Bernard Gilpin Primary School's newsletter

It has been wonderful to see the great enthusiasm for learning taking place both inside and out of in the classrooms since returning to school - all of the children have been calm, purposeful and eager to learn. We would like to thank you for your continued co-operation in the updated entering and exiting arrangements with the routines working well. Your continued support is very much appreciated in all that we do - it was wonderful to hear so many positive comments at the recent parent/carer's evening held in school, thank you.

## THE LEARNING CONTINUES OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM



Reception building dens at Herrington



Year 1 on a Sunderland House Hunt



Year 2 at the Hatton Art Gallery



Year 3 at The Beacon of Light

**Foundation Stage** visited the beautiful grounds of Herrington Park, in relation to their taught theme of Sticks and Twigs. The children thoroughly enjoyed exploring the scenic grounds where they created their own dens from the natural resources available in the grounds as well as making their own stick men and women.

**Year 1** enjoyed investigating houses in Sunderland where they found examples of flats, bungalows, a cottage and even a castle. On return to school, the children discussed the difference between the different features seen in the houses around Sunderland and then went on to compare the houses seen to others around the world.

**Year 2** had an exciting visit to the Hatton Art Gallery linking to the Geography theme of Africa. The gallery had amazing examples of African masks which the children observed and discovered how the masks were made and what they were used for. The children created their own design for a mask before using these ideas to make their own version using a range of materials. The children gained a greater understanding and appreciation of the African culture as a result of their experiences.

**Year 3** visited the Beacon of Light in Sunderland where they took part in a cookery workshop linked to their D&T Healthy Eating unit. In making healthy pancakes, the children developed their food preparation skills and discussed the importance of food hygiene. Linking to their Science theme of Animals including Humans, the children also took part in a number of workshops focussing on the importance of a healthy lifestyle. They took part in sporting activities, planned a healthy meal and discussed how exercise can also improve our mental well-being.

**Year 4** visited High Force as part of their Geography unit of study about Rivers. Whilst there, the children observed first-hand the incredible power of the waterfall along with several other features of a river including meanders and deposition. When back at school, the children put their understanding into practice by re-creating the journey of a river on a large -scale physical diagram on the yard before drawing labelled diagrams of this back in the classroom.

**Year 5** visited Helmsley Castle in North Yorkshire, in relation to their History unit of Norman Britain. The children studied first-hand the scale and importance of Norman Castles in this period of history, as well as handling a range of primary source artefacts in the collection in the castle. Once the children returned to school, they used their understanding to draw a labelled diagram of a typical Norman motte and bailey castle, as well as being inspired to create their own Norman shield designs after recreating the events of 1066 on the school field.

**Year 6** visited the Heugh Battery Museum in Hartlepool, linking to their First World War History theme. The children were given a tour of a WWI trench recreation, where they found out first-hand about the hardships of army life, handled a range of primary artefacts including helmets and rifles as well as hearing some of the stories of the people involved in the German raid on the Battery during the war. On return to school, the children created informative and persuasive leaflets, encouraging others to visit the museum, as well as writing newspaper reports linked to the Bombardment of Hartlepool in 1914.



Year 4 at High Force Waterfall



Year 5 at Helmsley Castle



Year 6 at Heugh Gun Battery Museum



Bernard Gilpin Primary School football Team

## SPORTSABILITY ATHLETICS

Eight children from KS2 recently competed in a SportsAbility event held at Sunderland Tennis Centre. All of children performed superbly on the day. They participated in a number of sports hall athletics events including tennis and multi-sports. As well as the children thoroughly enjoying the experience, they also gained invaluable skills and worked collaboratively and tirelessly as a team. A big well done to all involved.

## NEW FOOTBALL SEASON UNDERWAY

Bernard Gilpin's football teams have started the season very strongly in a number of competitions once again, with four teams being entered from across Years 5 and 6 for another season. The football that has been played by all of our teams has been of a very high standard and it is a pleasure to see the children playing football with such a positive attitude.

All three teams have made an impressive start to the league season, winning a number of their games. The B team are so far unbeaten, including a number of high-scoring victories and clean sheets. The A team have also started their season in the Hetton and Lambton League strongly, with a good win in their opening fixture. The C team have impressed everyone with their work rate and attitude, who also won in their most recent fixture. Best of luck to all of our teams in the league this season.

This season also sees the return of the Bernard Gilpin 9-a-side team. This team represent the school in the Sunderland 9-a-side League and have started the season well including scoring five goals in a recent victory in one of their games. The football that has been played by this team has been of really high standard - well done.

## SPORTS-HALL ATHLETICS

Twenty-two children from Years 5 and 6 recently represented the school in the annual Indoor Athletics competition. The athletics team performed superbly in the track events, in which they placed highly across the board. This theme continued in the field events, in which a number of the children were placed in the top three. All of the children performed admirably and were a credit to the school on the day - well done to all of those involved.



The successful Houghton 'Dashers'



Multi-sports at SportsAbility

## HOUGHTON DASH

Three of our children from Year 6 took part in the annual Houghton Dash, racing against 50 other children from schools from the local area. The children from Bernard Gilpin performed fantastically well in the race and all three secured places within the top 5 positions. Maya finished first in the girl's race (second place overall), Lewis finished second in the boy's race and Chloe came in fifth place overall. A huge well done to all of the children taking part.

## CLUBS ARE BOOMING

Monday	Computing	Lego	Football
Tuesday	Yoga	American Football	Cinema
Wednesday	Bernard's Master Chef	Drama	Football
Thursday	STEM	Sewing & Crafts	Multi-Sports
Friday	Dance	Gaming	DT

## **#HELLOYELLOW DAY**

On 8th October, our School Council organised a #HelloYellow Day to raise money for Young Minds – a charity working to improve children and young people’s mental health. Children and staff came to school dressed in yellow to show support and to celebrate the little things that we can do to improve our wellbeing. Well done to everyone involved for their efforts and for the generous contributions for such a great cause.



#HelloYellow Day



The School Council gardening project

## **GARDENING PROJECT**

This half term, children from Year 5 and our School Councillors took part in a gardening project to help improve our outdoor space. They thoroughly enjoyed working as a group to re-pot a selection of new trees ready for planting in the future. Well done to all of the children involved for displaying excellent teamwork skills and a positive attitude throughout the activity.

## **HALLOWE’EN DISCOS**

The ever-popular Hallowe’en discos returned recently and they were a ‘spook-tacular’ success. The children’s costumes were truly terrifying, as were the dance moves on show from some of the teachers! Thank you to all those who helped to make the event such a success and a special thank you to members of the School Council for helping to provide the music and entertainment throughout the disco as well as helping to serve drinks and snacks to the party goers.



The Harvest Festival Display



Some ‘Spook-tacular’ Costumes

## **HARVEST CELEBRATIONS**

Well done to all of the children for the recent Harvest Festival celebrations in school. All year groups from Reception through to the children in Year 6 took part in performing poems, songs and even a vegetable rap! A big thank you to the parents/carers who attended these events in such large numbers and for your continued support. All of the tinned food that we received went to the local Space4 food bank - the staff there have expressed their thanks as it will be given to families in need in the local area.

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Half Term** - School closes Friday 22nd October 2021

**School re-opens** - Monday 1st November 2021

**Christmas Holiday** – School closes Friday 17th December 2021

**School re-opens** - Tuesday 2nd January 2022

## **DREAM BELIEVE ACHIEVE**

Years 1, 2 and 3 will have an assembly every alternate Friday at 2.45 p.m. in the school hall. Years 4, 5 and 6 will have an assembly every alternate Friday at 2.45 p.m. also in the school hall—both assemblies are to celebrate the achievements of the children in school.

## **HELPFUL WEBSITES**

<https://student.readingplus.com/>

<https://www.lexiacore5.com/>

<https://oxfordowl.co.uk/>

<https://spag.com/>

<https://www.play.ttrockstars.com/>

<https://www.sumdog.com/>



We are continuing to use the Reading Plus and Lexia education programmes both in school and at home. Please encourage your child to continue use these online learning tools as part of their weekly homework. Both of these programmes are invaluable in assisting the children’s progress in reading across the school.

## **HAPPY HALF TERM**

After a successful, exciting and learning filled start to the year, we would like to wish you all a safe and restful half-term holiday. We look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 1st November for another exciting half term. Take care.